

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN

SUBJECT: INQUIRY RE OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH IN SOMALIA

1. ON BEHALF OF AN INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF OCEANOGRAPHERS AND METEOROLOGISTS PLANNING A SERIES OF EXPERIMENTS IN NORTHWEST INDIAN OCEAN, DEPT HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY A PROFESSOR OF OCEANOGRAPHY FROM UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI CONCERNING FEASIBILITY OF CONDUCTING SERIES OF EXPERIMENTS BASED IN SOMALIA.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE BRIEF ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

(A) WHAT WOULD BE PROBABLE ATTITUDE OF GSDR TOWARD STATIONING OF 65-FOOT, WELL-EQUIPPED U.S. FLAG RESEARCH VESSEL IN MOGADISCIO OR CHISIMAIO FOR 12-18 MONTHS IN 1976/77?

(B) WHAT WOULD BE FEASIBILITY OF CHARTERING VESSEL OF ABOVE SIZE WITH WINCH AND STABLE ELECTRICAL POWER SOURCES

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OF 5-10KW AT EITHER LOCATION DURING SAME PERIOD?

(C) WOULD SUFFICIENT FOOD AND FUEL BE AVAILABLE

FOR SUCH A VESSEL AND CREW?

(D) WOULD THERE BE MAJOR CUSTOMS DIFFICULTIES IN
AIRFREIGHTING OCEANOGRAPHIC/ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT
FOR SUCH STUDIES?

(E) COULD TEAM LIKELY OBTAIN PERMISSION TO INSTALL
SEVERAL SELF-CONTAINED TIDE-RECORDING INSTRUMENTS
AT VARIOUS POINTS ALONG SOMALI COAST AT APPROXIMATELY
30 FOOT DEPTHS?

3. DEPT HAS INFORMALLY ADVISED PROFESSOR OF
DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN SUCH UNDERTAKING BUT WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY CAN ADDUCE IN
RESPONSE TO ABOVE QUESTIONS TO ENABLE US TO ADVISE
PROFESSOR MORE AUTHORITATIVELY.

4. REQUEST REPLY BY MARCH 10. INGERSOLL

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